

HOUSE BILL No. 1367

DIGEST OF INTRODUCED BILL

Citations Affected: IC 20-12-77.

Synopsis: Higher education admission policy. Requires state educational institutions to admit first time freshman undergraduate students who meet certain requirements, including graduating from an Indiana secondary school in the top levels of the student's graduating class. Requires state educational institutions to consider socioeconomic factors in determining first time freshman undergraduate admission decisions.

Effective: July 1, 2004.

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January 20, 2004, read first time and referred to Committee on Education.

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Introduced

Second Regular Session 113th General Assembly (2004)

PRINTING CODE. Amendments: Whenever an existing statute (or a section of the Indiana Constitution) is being amended, the text of the existing provision will appear in this style type, additions will appear in **this style type**, and deletions will appear in ~~this style type~~.

Additions: Whenever a new statutory provision is being enacted (or a new constitutional provision adopted), the text of the new provision will appear in **this style type**. Also, the word **NEW** will appear in that style type in the introductory clause of each SECTION that adds a new provision to the Indiana Code or the Indiana Constitution.

Conflict reconciliation: Text in a statute in *this style type* or ~~this style type~~ reconciles conflicts between statutes enacted by the 2003 Regular Session of the General Assembly.

HOUSE BILL No. 1367

A BILL FOR AN ACT to amend the Indiana Code concerning education.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Indiana:

1 SECTION 1. IC 20-12-77 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE
2 AS A **NEW** CHAPTER TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
3 JULY 1, 2004]:

4 **Chapter 77. Higher Education Admission Policy**

5 **Sec. 1. As used in this chapter, "commission" refers to the**
6 **commission for higher education established by IC 20-12-0.5-2.**

7 **Sec. 2. As used in this chapter, "state educational institution"**
8 **has the meaning set forth in IC 20-12-0.5-1.**

9 **Sec. 3. A state educational institution shall admit a first time**
10 **freshman student under this chapter.**

11 **Sec. 4. (a) Each state educational institution shall admit an**
12 **applicant for admission to the state educational institution as an**
13 **undergraduate student if the applicant meets the following**
14 **requirements:**

15 **(1) Is a resident of Indiana.**

16 **(2) Has graduated in one (1) of the two (2) school years**
17 **preceding the academic year for which the applicant is**

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1 applying for admission from a public secondary school or a
 2 nonpublic secondary school in Indiana that is voluntarily
 3 accredited under IC 20-1-1-6.

4 (3) Has a grade point average in the top ten percent (10%) of
 5 the applicant's high school graduating class.

6 (b) To qualify for admission under this section, an applicant
 7 must submit an application before the expiration of any application
 8 filing deadline established by the state educational institution.

9 (c) After admitting an applicant under this section, the state
 10 educational institution shall review the applicant's record and any
 11 other factors the state educational institution considers
 12 appropriate to determine whether the applicant requires additional
 13 preparation for college level work or would benefit from inclusion
 14 in a retention program. The state educational institution may
 15 require such a student to enroll in appropriate enrichment courses
 16 and orientation programs during the summer immediately after
 17 the student is admitted under this section. This section does not
 18 prohibit a student who is found to not need additional preparation
 19 for college level work from enrolling, if the student chooses, during
 20 the summer immediately after the student is admitted under this
 21 section.

22 **Sec. 5.** The governing board of each state educational institution
 23 shall determine whether to adopt an admissions policy under which
 24 an applicant to the state educational institution as a first time
 25 freshman student, other than an applicant eligible for admission
 26 under section 4 of this chapter, shall be admitted to the state
 27 educational institution if the applicant meets the following
 28 requirements:

29 (1) Is a resident of Indiana.

30 (2) Has graduated in one (1) of the two (2) school years
 31 preceding the academic year for which the applicant is
 32 applying for admission from a public secondary school or a
 33 nonpublic secondary school in Indiana that is voluntarily
 34 accredited under IC 20-1-1-6.

35 (3) Has a grade point average in the top twenty-five percent
 36 (25%) of the applicant's high school graduating class.

37 **Sec. 6. (a)** An applicant who does not qualify for admission
 38 under section 4 or 5 of this chapter may apply for admission to any
 39 state educational institution.

40 (b) The state educational institution, after admitting students
 41 under sections 4 and 5 of this chapter, shall admit other applicants
 42 for admission as undergraduate students. Each state educational

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institution may consider all of, any of, or a combination of the following socioeconomic indicators or factors in making first time freshman admissions decisions under this section:

- (1) The applicant's academic record.
 - (2) The socioeconomic background of the applicant, including the percentage by which the applicant's family is above or below any recognized measure of poverty, the applicant's household income, and the applicant's parents' level of education.
 - (3) Whether the applicant would be the first generation of the applicant's family to attend or graduate from an institution of higher education.
 - (4) Whether the applicant has bilingual proficiency.
 - (5) The financial status of the applicant's school district.
 - (6) The performance level of the applicant's school as determined by the school accountability criteria used by the department.
 - (7) The applicant's responsibilities while attending school, including whether the applicant has been employed, whether the applicant has helped to raise children, or other similar factors.
 - (8) The applicant's region of residence.
 - (9) Whether the applicant is a resident of a rural, an urban, or a suburban area or a resident of a rural, an urban, or a suburban area in Indiana.
 - (10) The applicant's performance on standardized tests.
 - (11) The applicant's performance on standardized tests in comparison with that of other students from similar socioeconomic backgrounds.
 - (12) Whether the applicant attended any school while the school was under a court ordered desegregation plan.
 - (13) The applicant's involvement in community activities.
 - (14) The applicant's extracurricular activities.
 - (15) The applicant's commitment to a particular field of study.
 - (16) The applicant's personal interview.
 - (17) The applicant's admission to a comparable accredited out-of-state institution.
 - (18) Any other consideration the institution considers necessary to accomplish the institution's stated mission.
- (c) A state educational institution may review other factors in making an admissions decision.

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1 (d) Not later than one (1) year before the date that applications
2 for admission are first considered under this section, each state
3 educational institution shall publish in the state educational
4 institution's catalog a description of the factors considered by the
5 state educational institution in making admission decisions and
6 shall make the information available to the public.

7 (e) This section does not apply to a state educational institution
8 that has an open enrollment policy.

9 Sec. 7. Each state educational institution shall annually report
10 to the commission describing the composition of the entering class
11 of students admitted under this chapter. The report must include
12 a demographic breakdown, including a breakdown by race,
13 ethnicity, and economic status, of the students admitted under
14 sections 4, 5, and 6 of this chapter.

15 Sec. 8. The commission shall adopt rules under IC 4-22-2 to
16 implement this chapter.

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